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September 21, 2004

Washington, DC 20554

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C. Douglas Jarrett (202) 434-4180 jarrett@khlaw.com

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Ex Parte Presentation

Re:

In the Matter of Performance Measurements and Standards for Interstate Special Access Services (CC Docket No. 01-321); In the Matter of AT&T Corporation Petition for Rulemaking to Reform Regulation of Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier Rates for Interstate Special Access Services (RM Docket No. 10593).

Dear Ms. Dortch:

In addition to the undersigned, Susan Casale, Greg Lepkowski and Thomas Frobase participated on behalf of the American Petroleum Institute in a discussion with Federal Communications Commission personnel regarding the above referenced proceedings. Present at the meeting from the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau were Tamara Preiss, Deena Shetler, Robert Tanner, Margaret Dailey, Richard Lerner and Julie Veach. The substance of the presentation is summarized in the attachment.

Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

C. Douglas Jarrett KGR
C. Douglas Jarrett

cc: Tamara Preiss

Deena Shetler Robert Tanner Margaret Dailey Richard Lerner Julie Veach

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# American Petroleum Institute Talking Points on Special Access RM-10593 CC Docket No. 01-231 API & API Member Companies \*Represents domestic petroleum and pipeline operators w/substantial operations in USA \*Industry uses varied "telecommunications" and "telecommunications services" in meeting business requirements Companies are major consumers of interstate special access services API is a member of SPARC and JCIG **API** Member Companies **\*** Special Access Supports Virtually All Wireline Data Communications Data services now constitute over 50% of expenditures for services . Growth in wireline services supports data, including critical infrastructure applications Bandwidth demands require DS-1 rates or higher Wireline voice services stable . VoIP is another IP (data) application

## Special Access Usage Trends: Informal Survey Results of 6 Member Companies

- **★**ILECs provide 95%+ of domestic DS-1s
  - Purchased by IXCs as part of voice and data services
  - 100% in non-urban areas
- Approximately 80% of DS-3s provided by ILECs
  - Some TXCs provide DS-3 & OC-n capacity access
     Cable companies and CLECs provide less than 5% of these access circuits

## Special Access Usage Trends: Informal Survey Results of 6 Member Companies

- **DS-1s Provided by**ILECs − <u>1150</u>
- DS-3s Provided by ILECs − 66
- ◆Gigabit Ethernet Provided by ILECs--16
- ◆DS-1s Provided by Non-ILECs = 50
- ♣DS-3s Provided by Non-ILECs—12
- ◆OC-N and Fiber Ring Access Provided by Non-ILECs--3

#### **Special Access Pricing**

- \*Special access pricing is the exception
  - Virtually all IXC services are subject to competition
  - ILEC special access pricing is constant to rising

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#### Special Access Pricing

- \*Pricing Flexibility Order-Revoke It
  - RBOCs are not lowering rates in response to competition
  - Low density areas have lower "Price Cap" rates
     Recent Qwest tariff filing confirms need for reform
     AT&T Petition for Rulemaking provides best
    - vehicle Revoke Priding Flexibility Order
    - Return to Price Caps and reset rates at more realistic rate of return numbers

#### Special Access Ordering, Provisioning & Maintenance

- JCIG standards looking to systematize and improve delivery and maintenance of services
- ◆ JCIG standards focus on ILEC/IXC relationship for good reason
  - IXCs obtain 99% of special access used in delivery of end-to-end services

#### Special Access Ordering, Provisioning & Maintenance

- · Special Access provisioning should not be a "black hole"
  - Predictability and reliability are fundamental
    - Maintenance and installation timeliness important for safety of life and property
    - Mastering ILEC processes should not be a challenge for 2 nd Tier domestic IXCs

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### Special Access Ordering, Provisioning & Maintenance

- ♦ Reliable and Predictable Provisioning
  - Minimizes Indirect costs to customers
    - Reduce time for dual carrier services to locations
  - Maximizes competition in IXC Services
- \*Authority for switched access "PIC" rules, not local competition provisions, support metrics and standards for ordering, provisioning and maintenance of special access services

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